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Conserving, Enhancing and Protecting Michigan's Natural Resources and Outdoors Heritage since 1937.

September 13, 2012

The Honorable Phil Paylov Michigan State Senate 905 Farnum Building Lansing, MI 48933

RE: Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps legislation

Dear Senator Pavlov,

The Michigan United Conservation Clubs is a non-profit member-based organization with over 250 affiliated clubs and 42,000 members. For 75 years, MUCC has united citizens to conserve, protect and enhance Michigan's natural resources and preserve our outdoor heritage through education, communication and advocacy.

As we continue our strong tradition of defending the outdoors and educating the public about Michigan's rich natural resources heritage, we are pleased to fully support the proposal to reform and revitalize the Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps.

Effectively engaging our youth and young professionals is key to Michigan's recovery, just as teaching them outdoor skills and instilling a stewardship mentality and conservation ethic will be the corner stone of renewing Michigan's natural resources heritage in the 21st century.

We applaud this effort to think outside of the box about ways to transform a now shell program into a partnership that can deliver conservation in a new and improved way by providing incentive for education and resources management careers, while teaching skills that will benefit Michigan's citizens and our resources for years to come.

This program and the efforts to revitalize it are a perfect fit for MUCC's mission of conserving, enhancing, and protecting our natural resources and outdoor heritage through education and encouraging participation in resource stewardship.

We stand ready and willing to assist as we can to move this legislation and the Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps program forward.

Yours in Conservation.

Erin McDonough **Executive Director**